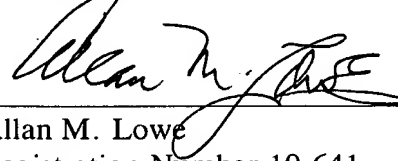


Prompt and favorable action on the merits of this application is earnestly solicited.
Kindly direct any inquiries to the undersigned at the below-listed address and telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Allan M. Lowe
Registration Number 19,641

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP
1700 Diagonal Road
Suite 310
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111

March 6, 2001

said step of setting a plurality of configuration settings comprises setting a plurality of application settings to a common value across each of said plurality of computer entities.

5 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], further comprising the step of:

entering at least one said setting data via a web interface.

10 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said master computer entity comprises a database storing a plurality of said configuration settings.

15 5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said master computer entity stores a database containing a list of a plurality of said computer entities within a group.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said configuration setting is selected from the set:

20 a schedule setting;

a retention setting;

25 an exclude setting;

an authorised right setting;

a limit setting;

30 a quota setting;

a data file definition setting;

assigning at least one other said computer entity to be a slave computer entity within said group;

5 said master computer entity applying at least one configuration setting to a said corresponding respective slave computer entity in said same group, to set said slave computer entity is to provide an equivalent functionality to a user as said master computer entity.

10 10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said master computer entity of said group operates as a slave computer entity for a further group.

11. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said slave computer entity of said group operates as a slave computer entity in a second group.

15 12. The method as claimed in ^{claim 9} [any one of claims 9 to 11] wherein each said computer entity comprises a headless computer entity.

20 13. The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of:
checking whether a said slave computer entity has a same security mode setting as said master computer entity.

25 14. The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of:
checking whether a said slave computer entity has a same security mode setting as said master computer entity; and

30 if said slave computer entity does not have a same security mode setting as said master computer entity, then rejecting assigning of said slave computer entity to be a slave computer entity within said group.